

Worksession

Agenda Item #	13
Meeting Date	May 10, 2004
Prepared By	Suzanne Ludlow Community & Government Liaison
Approved By	Richard M. Finn, City Mgr.

Discussion Item	City's FY05 Legislative Agenda
Background	<p>Each year the Legislative Committee of the Maryland Municipal League asks municipalities to submit recommendations for MML's legislative agenda in the next State Legislative Session. Unfortunately, MML wants these recommendations submitted by May 28th. This is difficult because the 2004 session has just ended and the Governor still has the opportunity to veto legislation from it. Nevertheless, the MML Legislative Committee would like the recommendations now, will study the recommendations over the summer, and will develop a recommended Legislative Program. MML members will vote on the 2005 Legislative Program at its Fall Conference in October.</p> <p>We are being asked for recommendations of statewide bills, not local bills. In the last couple of years we have recommended several pedestrian safety initiatives and have supported initiatives brought by Prince George's County municipalities to increase local zoning or land use authorities. Staff is not aware of any new statewide items to recommend.</p> <p>The major municipal issue for the next Legislative Session will be protection from expected cuts in local funding. This was one of the items of the Legislative Program for 2004 and is expected to be the primary item for 2005.</p>
Policy	The City Council sets the legislative policy for the City of Takoma Park.
Fiscal Impact	State cutbacks hurt municipalities in two ways: by direct cuts and by cuts to Counties or agencies that provide support to municipalities.
Attachments	Copy of the 2005 MML Legislative Request Form.
Recommendation	If Councilmembers or others have a suggestion for a statewide bill, those suggestions should be made at this worksession so that research can be done and the MML form may be completed and submitted.
Special Consideration	

2005 MML LEGISLATIVE REQUEST

Name of Municipality, Chapter or Department submitting request:_____

Contact Person/Title_____

Address/City/State/Zip:_____

Telephone numbers: (Work)_____ (Home)_____ Email:_____

Please complete this form in its entirety. Attach additional sheets, if necessary, as well as documents related to your request. **FORM MUST BE RETURNED NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, May 28, 2004.**

INTRODUCTION

1. Describe the problem or situation the request is intended to address:

2. Describe the requested legislation:

3. Describe how the requested legislation would remedy the problem:

4. The proposed legislation would address: _____Only your municipality
_____Only municipalities in your county _____Only statewide municipalities
_____All counties and municipalities in the entire state

5. Would the proposed remedy have a significant fiscal impact on your municipality?

OVER.....

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Could the problem be resolved by something other than a new law, i.e., action by another level of government or changes in administrative procedures?
2. If administrative remedies have already been pursued, what were they and what was the outcome?
3. What other state and/or local agencies, if any, would be affected by this proposal?
4. Have any state agencies been contacted about the proposal? If yes, what was their reaction?

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1. Has the League considered this proposal in a previous year? If yes, describe any significant changes in circumstances that might improve its chances of success in 2005:
2. Has this request been considered by the General Assembly in prior sessions? If yes, please provide the bill number, year, and outcome of legislation, if known:
3. Has this proposed legislation been implemented by any other city, county or state? If yes, please describe where it has been implemented and cite any existing law or model code upon which the proposal is based:

Signature of authorized municipal, chapter
or departmental official

Print name

Date

Return Form To:

MML Legislative Committee
1212 West Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

ATTN: Patricia Rocker

Indicate the date of the meeting where the governing body of the municipality, chapter or department endorsed the request:_____

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